

# Local 759 Signs for All Converse Cannery Worker

## The Indiana Teamster

"Serving the Indiana Teamster Movement"

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# CONVENTION RE-ELECTS TOBIN

## Chambers Gets Contract for Entire Group

KOKOMO—Teamsters Local 759, headed by O. B. Chambers, has just signed a contract with the G. S. Suppinger Co. covering all employees of the company's canning factory in Converse, Ind.



CHAMBERS

The new contract contains several clauses to conform with the Taft-Hartley Law. It provides pay increases for the workers; a 40-hour week with time and one-half after eight hours per day; vacation pay of one week after one year and two weeks after five years.

This is the first contract covering the canning industry signed by Local 759 which covers all male and female employees.

### Shell American Transport

The contract covering Shell American transport drivers has been signed for Locals 759 and 298 of Michigan City. The contract expires November 1 and has been made retroactive to July 1, 1947.

Local 759 also has contracts open with Simon Wholesale Warehouse, Peru; National Cylinder Gas Co., Logansport; all ready mixed plants in its jurisdiction and is negotiating a new over-the-road motor freight contract.

The General Meeting of Local 759 will be held at the Labor Temple, 512 East Sycamore St., Kokomo, the first Saturday of each month, at 8 p. m.

All members are urged to register for the coming elections at the places of registration which have been set up in Howard County so that they will be able to vote for their friends and defeat their enemies.

When buying bread, remember to patronize the Omar Bread Co., Colonial Bread Co. and Ward Baking Co. and remember that Dietz's Bread Co. is the only non-union bread company in this local's jurisdiction.

Also ask the milk man for his union button and book when buying milk.

There will be many things of interest at the next general meeting that have been brought Convention, recently held in back from the International

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DANIEL J. TOBIN

## DRIVERS' COUNCIL TO MEET WITH ISFL IN TERRE HAUTE

The Indiana State Drivers' Council will hold its regular monthly meeting for September in Terre Haute in connection with the annual convention of the State Federation of Labor.

Arrangements have been made for a headquarters for Teamster delegates to the two conclaves.

The Federation's convention—its 62nd—starts September 16 and promises to be the greatest in the long history of that organization, despite limited hotel facilities.

According to *The Leader*, official organ of the ISFL, "credentials from delegates are already pouring into the Federation's offices in unprecedented numbers. And more are arriving daily."

Unrest over the Taft-Hartley slave labor law is credited for the interest of affiliated unions in the convention which will be one of the most important in many years.

Meantime, the Housing Committee of the Vigo County Central Labor Union, host for the conclave, was searching frantically for rooms to house the expected record number of delegates.

Because of the room shortage, it appeared that many delegates would forsake their usual custom and leave their wives at home. The Housing Committee has already announced that delegates who bring their wives will be quartered in private homes.

Many delegates living close to Terre Haute plan to return to their homes after the daily sessions and return the next day.

President Carl Mullen and Secretary-Treasurer John Acker of the Federation, agreed this week that the importance of the con-

vention cannot be under-estimated because of the Taft-Hartley slave labor law.

They pointed out that for many years labor unions have been as free as the employer and other groups but, under the Taft-Hartley act, they are no longer free.

The Taft-Hartley law, of course, will be the main subject under consideration by the convention.

In this connection, officers of the Federation urged all affiliated local unions to send at least one delegate to the convention to assist in mapping plans to combat the evil law that has all but made slaves out of the workers.

Convention headquarters will be at the Terre Haute House.

## Lake Construction Workers Win Raise

HAMMOND—Averting a strike in the multi-million dollar construction industry in Lake county, new wage agreements have been reached between the county's drivers and mechanics unions with the associated trucking firms, boosting wages 15 to 27 cents.

Michael Sawochka, Gary, business representative for General Drivers Local 142, acted as chairman of the unions' negotiating committee.

Other union representatives on the negotiating committee, which conferred with management officials in Hammond last week and took part in other discussions beginning last April, were:

J. F. Strickland and John Kopach, Gary; William Sullivan and Henry Willing, Hammond, and Steven Toth, East Chicago. The unions affected, all AFL affiliates, are General Drivers' union locals 142 of Gary, 362 of Hammond, and 520 of East Chicago, and the

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## Teamsters Meeting on Coast Hear Taft-Hartley Assailed; Gain in Membership Reported

SAN FRANCISCO.—Recalling the early days of the Teamsters International Union and the terrific struggle through now occupies in the economic life of America, Daniel J. Tobin, which it came so successfully to attain the powerful position it General President, in his opening address before the 15th Convention of the Teamsters Union, declared that Labor of America will come through the trying days ahead under the Taft-Hartley Bill, with flying colors, in spite of the efforts of all our enemies.

By an overwhelming margin, the recommendation of the Constitution Committee to create a special executive vice-president post within the framework of the International was passed on Wednesday at the Convention.

The committee is headed by Dave Beck of Seattle.

Beck took the floor during the discussion of this Tobin-sponsored measure and ripped the daily press apart for falsely stating that this post was being initiated for him as a possible successor to Tobin.

"No one has been selected for the position, that's up to President Tobin," Beck stated. "The Constitution of the International provides for the first vice-president to assume the general president's position in case of death, and this has not been changed."

When a voice vote was called, it was estimated that 95 per cent of the delegates in attendance approved the measure.

President Tobin recalled that it was only a few years ago when public offices were bought and sold, with most of the money being put up by selfish, profit-hungry corporations, but that a great awakening came through the influence of Organized Labor to clean up the situation. He said that the Teamsters had helped to elect Governor Earl Warren and that they were not sorry. He hoped they would not have occasion

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## Schenley Drivers Cited for Safety

Schenley Distillers Corp., is mighty proud of its truck drivers employed in the Lawrenceburg, Indiana plant and members of Teamsters Local 691. Collectively these drivers covered 580,963 miles during 1946 without a single accident.

The record was made public when George W. Brown, the firm's transportation engineer, awarded medals of honor to the individual Teamsters, as follows:

William Stoneking for driving an estimated 330,000 accident-free miles in five years.

Morris Stoneking and Byron Smock, three years each.

Charles Knight, Eldon Kimmons and Willis Peck, two years.

Robert Findley, Russell Koons, Cecil Glackin and Ernest Meyer, one year.

White certificates went to Fred Wilson, Donald Voss, Lawson Gray, Marvin Steelman and Ivan Walston, all without an accident, but who operated less than a year.

## Special Notice Members of 716

All members of Teamsters Local 716, Indianapolis, are urged to consult their shop steward or the bulletin board in their barn or at 28 West North St. for dates of meeting nights, starting September 1.

Extra Special: All members of Local 716 are urged to make a special effort to attend the general meeting, to be held at 28 West North St., September 26, at 8 p. m.



## Pegler Glorifies a Dead Rat

Westbrook Pegler, who makes more money by vilifying labor leaders in his newspaper column than any of the leaders themselves receive, has found it in his heart to deliver a funeral oration for the late Pearl Bergoff.

Bergoff was a master strikebreaker, a procurer of flunks—rats to you. And Bergoff was a master rat.

But says Pegler:

"Pearl was a wonderful strikebreaker and, personally, I think he was cleaner and more honest than any union boss in the USA. Breaking strikes was a straight business with him. He never rumbled about democracy or human rights."

Is Pegler Crazy?

If Pegler really believes that all union bosses in the USA are dirtier and less honest than Pearl Bergoff, we think Pegler is nuts. Granting him a mighty typewriter, he is using it as an insane zealot, tetch on one subject... a Carrie Nation against the closed shop.

He ignores the struggle made by working people since the beginning of history to survive against the forces of inhumanity, which once were kings and today are Chamber of Commerce madames.

He refuses to give any credit to union bosses for progress made by laboring people up from the sweatshop and insufficient pay. Or to imagine where working people of America would be today except for the union bosses.

He finds an occasional union leader like George Scalise and, arguing that all leaders are Scalises, reviles the good along with the bad. He would abolish organized labor. Yet would he abolish Congress because of an occasional felonious statesman such as Representative May?

While American working people were striking against the 12-hour day, outdoor privies and too little to eat earlier in this century, Pegler's hero, Bergoff, was piling up \$10,000,000 by supplying men to shoot at them.

Bergoff started life as a spotter for a New York street car company, snitching on conductors who stole nickels. In 1934 he furnished 4,000 men to break a strike at a Pittsburgh steel plant, by murdering 42 strikers and wounding 216. He left such a trail of blood and brutality wherever he operated that in 1942 he was barred from doing business in New York State.

If Pegler doesn't believe the truth of what he is writing, but is just calling names for money, he belongs to the second oldest profession in the world—the profession of pandering to the rich (a profession made illustrious these days by some radio commentators).

We hate to believe it, and certainly would be the last to accuse Mr. Pegler of insincerity. But if he is pounding that typewriter with tongue in cheek he's lower morally for our money than any prostitute in the USA.

P. S. The fact of his longevity disproves that all union bosses are hoodlums. He'd be dead if they were.

## Another Pegler Hero

Pegler found a second hero in one week and gave a million dollars worth of publicity to a lawyer who knocked down Joseph A. Padway, AFL general counsel, during a Congressional Labor Subcommittee investigation of labor disputes in Los Angeles.

The lawyer was Irving McCann, counsel for the committee, who had made a series of slurs upon labor and persistently attempted to browbeat AFL witnesses during the hearing.

McCann ridiculed William C. Doherty, an AFL vice-president, saying:

"Here comes a man who five years ago was a letter carrier pretending to tell a Congressional Committee how to run its affairs—a man with more brains in his feet than he has in his head."

Padway objected to the insult "to every letter carrier in the US postal service." McCann seized him by the throat and pushed him over a chair, hitting him three times and breaking his glasses.

Whereupon Pegler announced his hero award thus:

He probably has other plans, but, if not, Irving McCann, the lawyer for the Congressional Labor Subcommittee, could get awful rich before snowfall just by letting patriots shake the hand that popped Joe Padway on the snoot, for a dollar a shake. There was a spiritual somewhat in that pop.

I am hoping that the movies were present at the committee hearings in Los Angeles to catch the happy event with sound.

I am not one to endorse the pop on the snoot as regular repartee between counsel in legislative hearings and before the bar, but you wouldn't object too grimly, would you, if a fellow enjoyed this particular one this once? I would be willing to pay a small fine for the pleasure.

An entirely different light is shed upon Pegler's hero by "Labor," a national weekly newspaper published in Washington by 15 railroad organizations and notably reliable.

"Labor" says:

Washington observers were not surprised by the extraordinary conduct in Los Angeles of Irving McCann, counsel for the House Labor Committee.

He's been hanging around the capital for years, grabbing off one Federal legal job after another. For a couple of years he served on the staff of a House committee headed by Howard W. Smith (Dem., Va.), one of the most notorious labor haters in Congress.

He has been unable to hold any job, for long, and that's ascribed to his lack of ability and other undesirable qualities.

## Where NAM Gets Its Money

The National Association of Manufacturers can well afford to spend millions to kill price control and finance passage of the Taft-Hartley outrage when you consider the war record of some of its members.

Just how many millions the members grafted in war contracts above normal profits is not recorded.

An inkling, however, is revealed in a report just made public by Secretary of War Kenneth C. Royall stating that to date 400 war contract frauds have been reported to the Department of Justice.

Of these cases, said the cabinet member, 388 individual capitalists and 31 corporations have been indicted, and a total of more than 10 millions recovered in civil suits.

He added that fines of \$386,412 had been collected and a large number of the chiseling manufacturers sent to prison.

Almost 7 billion in overcharges have been recovered in contract renegotiations.

Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren has told Congress that these renegotiations were extremely generous toward contractors. He said that in some instances the government official who did the negotiating later turned up on the payroll of the contractors who obviously had not suffered in the settlements.

## Jergens Still Unfair

Jergens products, including both the nationally advertised hand lotion and Woodbury soaps, were placed on the list of things that good Union Teamsters do not patronize, by the Teamsters International convention in San Francisco.

A resolution was presented by the Western Warehouse Council of the Western Conference of Teamsters, reciting the experience of the Teamsters with the Jergens company, citing the fact that the company has refused to bargain in good faith and has defied the decisions of the NLRB after an election in the Los Angeles plant. The company is now employing strike breakers.

The resolution called upon all Teamster locals throughout the nation to tell their members and the families of members the truth about Jergens products and urge that no Union-earned money go to purchase them.

The Warehouse Council had a booth in the entry of the big San Francisco auditorium, where the convention sessions were held, at which the Jergens products on the "we do not patronize" list were displayed and at which literature relative to the Jergens matter was distributed. George Mock, secretary of the Warehouse Council, was in charge of the booth.

## 880 Daily Deaths

Death continues to ride the highways. During June an average of 880 persons lost their lives daily in traffic accidents, it is revealed by the National Safety Council.

In the first half of the year fatalities due to automobile mishaps totaled 14,480. Although high, that figure is 9 per cent below the casualty rate in the same period a year ago.

## Local 215 Member Driver of Month

(Continued from page 1)  
weather, District Supervisor, Interstate Commerce Commission Bureau of Motor Carriers at Indianapolis.

Titzer's designation by the Indiana association makes him automatically a candidate in the National Driver of the Year contest now being sponsored by the American Trucking Assns., Inc.

A release from Washington says that the winner of the na-

tional contest will receive a special trophy from the American Bantam Car Co., of Butler, Pa.

The contest winner will be selected in January, 1948, from safety records and acts of heroism and courtesy on the highways by each of the truck and bus drivers being selected as drivers of the month throughout 1947 in their home States by the 53 associations affiliated with ATA.

## Man Who Knew Halleck Calls Him Scoundrel

Charges that Congressman Charles Halleck of Rensselaer "should, by all principles of right and justice, have been sentenced to the penitentiary many years ago," are contained in a letter signed by M. R. Halstead, of Gary, to the *Labor Beacon*.

The letter was written following publication in *The Beacon*, and several other labor papers, including the *Indiana Teamster* (Aug., 1947) of facts indicating that the voters of Jasper county are determined to retire Halleck from politics.

The published articles asserted that Halleck, when prosecuting attorney, accepted bribes not to prosecute, and escaped imprisonment only by the statute of limitations.

It is common knowledge also that Halleck has always represented big business in Washington and never the voters he has been elected to represent—that he has been a consistent enemy of working people and has helped promote everything anti-labor, including the Taft-Hartley outrage.

Halstead's letter to the *Beacon* says:

Dear Sir:

A day or so ago one of my friends here handed me a copy of your paper, and called my attention to the article entitled "Rap Halleck for Bribes."

I wish to say to you that I was born and raised in Jasper County, and I knew the father of Charles Halleck for over 40 years, and I have known Charles Halleck for more than 25 years.

I have often thought and said that Charles Halleck is a living, breathing demonstration of the truth uttered by Abraham Lincoln when he said, "I don't know a great deal about politics, but I have learned that crookedness is no bar to advancement in politics."

For many years I have seen and heard enough positive evidence to thoroughly convince me that Charles Halleck is a man without principle, without any integrity and wholly without honor.

I am thoroughly convinced that he should, by all the principles of right and justice, have been sentenced to the penitentiary many years ago, and if the voters decide to throw him out, they will do a splendid job and one long past due.

M. R. HALSTEAD,  
931 Hendricks,  
Gary, Indiana.

## Union Label Radio Shows in Lafayette

Four sprightly labor radio programs, sponsored by the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers' Union, will be broadcast by Station WBAA, Lafayette, this month. The Hatters have produced the programs as part of a national union label campaign.

Each of the shows is a ten-minute drama. "Together We Live" tells the touching story of a worker's wife testifying before a Senate committee; "Your Fortune's in My Hat" is a drama of the stage and its people with a surprise twist in the ending; "Another Side of the Story" is a hammer-and-tongs dramatized debate on vital labor-management issues; the fourth program, "It's the Woman Who Buys," is a fast-paced comedy of domestic and office intrigue.

## NEW CHICAGO CONTRACT

CHICAGO—Ten locals of the AFL's Teamsters Union ratified a contract with 210 Chicago area fuel oil and gasoline firms employing 1,400 transport drivers.

Protection is not just a word. In order to safeguard Union Labor standards we must actually patronize only union firms.

# DON'T PUT IT OFF!

Make sure you are eligible to vote next November.

Go to the Court House or other place of registration for your district at once and register if you haven't done so.

## Monday, October 6, Is the Deadline

REMEMBER:

"Elect Your Friends and Defeat Your Enemies."



# Union Strength Up to the Membership

By WILLIAM GREEN

The labor movement of the United States faces a situation in which the key to progress is a strong, disciplined organization with a membership that understands why a union is needed, that knows the strategy of effective union operation so as to get the best results over the years and that knows how to maintain the union for long-time service. We are reminded of an axiom frequently quoted in those days when we were establishing the labor movement: "What the government gives it can also take away."

The government never organized unions, but it created conditions which facilitated large-scale organization. Workers organized new unions to get wage increases even before they knew how to operate a union or to exercise power with discretion and a sense of responsibility in order to safeguard their rights.

Trade unionism is a way of life in which workers organize to exercise collectively the right of contract which as individuals is not effectively available to them. Collectively they can bargain with their employer on an equal footing and thus make work provisions as favorable to them as to the employer.

The old National Labor Relations Act prevented employers from imposing their will on the workers, thus leaving workers free to bargain as guided by their best judgment. Progress lay in affording unions experience to develop better procedures and better standards. Experience can be an effective educator. Two factors interfered with the educational work which had previously accompanied union organization. First, workers who had long been prevented from joining unions by yellow-dog contracts, company spies, blacklists, fear of discharge and the knowledge that employers were organized to prevent reemployment of union sympathizers joined unions at a rate that saw membership figures increase far in excess of the new members' understanding and belief in trade unions. Secondly, the split in the labor movement favored raiding and fighting tactics instead of educational methods to develop understanding of trade unionism.

Division in the labor movement also facilitated enactment of the Taft-Hartley Act, which seeks to repress and weaken unions. This is the reason why our Executive Council placed organizational unity of labor as the first step in getting relief from this act. Cooperation must rest on good faith. We shall continue to insist upon organic unity in the economic field as a prerequisite to political cooperation.

In addition to efforts for unity, and quite irrespective of the results of these efforts, we must move for a revival of trade unionism so that workers may realize the union is their agency for securing the economic gains which make possible higher standards of living and security for the future. The union is only as strong as the devotion and discipline of its members, for it is an organization of human beings joined by common interests and by an understanding that united they win and divided they lose. They must work for the common interests of all and not for individual promotion—this is the basic rule of union action.

Often this subordination of individual welfare re-

quires long discussion and study of experience. When this basic lesson becomes the rule of action, then it becomes possible to make adjustments that respect the rights of others.

Our unions have established rights for their members and have tried to teach members to exercise their rights so as not to interfere with the rights of others. The majority of trade unionists, like the majority of all citizens, value honesty and fair dealings. Experience in time will convince the rest.

As a result of their constructive policies, presidents of our national and international unions are receiving assurance from employers with whom they have had contractual relations expressing the hope that labor relations may be continued as in the past because they cannot afford to lose the cooperation and mutual understanding that collective bargaining makes possible.

Where collective bargaining results in labor relations satisfactory to workers and employers and in output satisfactory and dependable to users, there is no need for outside interference or control. The establishment and maintenance of such relations is the ideal which the American Federation of Labor seeks to attain and we must organize our educational work to that end.

Union membership involves following the union way of life—that is, workers join with others to determine policies in dealing with work problems and select representatives to carry out those policies. Unions follow the democratic policy of decision by majority vote and abide by majority decision until it is overruled by members eligible to determine policies. Each member is under obligation to seek his welfare as a member of the union and not against it or at the expense of the group. The union develops an orderly, planned program to promote wage-earner welfare, primarily through collective bargaining.

Union officials acting for members are under obligation to report back to their constituents. In the light of reports the union confirms or changes policies and plans how to meet new developments. The union will need to check the facts involved in decisions and will want to know how other unions are dealing with similar problems.

Union members have responsibilities just as officers do. A good union member must be able to consider both economic and legislative problems and their connection with the welfare of democracy.

Good union members, in addition to expecting service, are mindful of their duties to union and community. They realize that the union is the agency through which workers' rights and interests are maintained and furthered in accord with social and economic progress.

Good trade unionists must also be good workers, appreciative of good tools and machinery and aware of the value of good workmanship and teamwork to increase the quantity and quality of output. A worker can be a good trade unionist only if he is a good citizen who values the opportunities of democracy and performs intelligently his duties in maintaining democracy. The principles and qualities which give individuals value in one aspect of living are equally important in other relationships.



WILLIAM GREEN

## War Memorial Is Rodeo Site

According to tentative plans, announced by J. E. Nicholas, executive secretary of the Indiana Motor Truck Assn., the Rodeo, in which Walter Cline and Chuck Goins will attempt to hold their titles as champion truck drivers will be held on the World War Memorial Plaza, the mornings of September 25 and 26.

The Plaza is just around the corner from 28 West North St., headquarters of Teamsters Local 135, of which both drivers are members.

The Rodeo is to be the main feature of the IMTA's convention. Winners will go to Los Angeles in October to compete in a national driving contest, as explained in last month's edition of this publication.

## Transport Drivers Also Have Rodeo

WASHINGTON—Automobile transport drivers will compete in their first truck driving Rodeo at Detroit, October 4, 5 and 6, when the National Automobile Transporters Assn. holds its first contest to select America's champion driver of this type of vehicle.

Rules of the contest have been patterned after those of the National Truck Rodeo held annually since 1937, except for the war years, by the American Trucking Assn., Inc.

In a letter to G. D. Sontheimer, executive assistant in ATA's Department of Operations, R. E. Belser, general manager of the transporter's association, announced that district rodeos will be held at Detroit, September 6; Buffalo, New York, and Chicago, September 9; St. Louis, September 12, and Cincinnati, September 16. The winners in the district rodeos then will compete in the National Transporters Rodeo in October.

The winner and runner-up in the finals will receive all expenses for a trip to Los Angeles where they will attend the annual convention of the American Trucking Assn., October 26-30. Although they will not compete in the Rodeo finals there, they will give an exhibition of their skill in loading and unloading an automobile transport. Exhibitions of this type have featured ATA's Rodeo finals for years, but separate competition for drivers of specialized vehicles has not been held heretofore, either as part of the ATA Rodeo or independently.

Each contestant in the transporters' Rodeo will be scored on his knowledge of Interstate Commerce Commission safety regulations and his answers to questions concerning safety of operation of automobile transports; his personal appearance, and his ability to load, unload and drive a transport. The time element in the contest will be used only in the event of a tie.

## 1946 BEST PROFIT YEAR IN HISTORY

Tips given to waiters, bell hops, barbers, etc. in America total \$400 million annually, says a report on national income just made public by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The report doesn't show how much in tips was received by any individual, being concerned with totals.

It does show, however, that manufacturing profits in 1946 set an all-time record of \$6,388 million after federal and state income and excess profits taxes.

Corporate profits in all manufacturing before taxes amounted to \$10,858 million in 1946, and undistributed profits for that year in these industries ran to \$3,487 million.

Food processors led the list of manufacturers in total profits with \$1,026 millions in 1946 after taxes compared to \$567 million after taxes in 1945, the report said.

Textile mill products were also a highly profitable field, showing \$846 million in 1946 as compared to \$277 million in 1945 when the industry was still largely under federal government contracts.

It is also proven in the report that although most Americans call baseball our "national game," the truth is we pay in twice as much per year to view collegiate football—about \$44 million compared to baseball's \$22 million in all professional leagues.

Marcelis, facials, permanents and other magic in the beauty parlor cost America's women a tidy \$541 million annually, while barber shops collect \$468 million, mostly from men, for haircuts and shaves.

The 54-page report was prepared under the direction of Amos E. Taylor, director of the office of business economics and may be obtained for 25 cents a copy from the U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

## Lake Construction Workers Win Raise

(Continued from page 1)

Auto Mechanics' Lake county local 242, which has headquarters in Gary.

Sawochka asserted the rank and file of the 350 drivers, helpers and mechanics covered in the new contracts is satisfied with the new agreements, and their satisfaction will insure uninterrupted progress henceforth in vitally necessary new industrial and residential construction in the region.

Representing the area's associated trucking firms in setting up the new wage pact was a committee headed by Victor Kirsch of Hammond, John Justak of Whiting, Joseph Ross of Gary, Ralph Bihman of East Chicago and Kenneth Harrington of Gary.

The new contract covering drivers engaged by trucking firms working on industrial construction projects in the area's steel mills, oil refineries and other industries was made effective as of August 4; that affecting drivers and other employees of firms hauling materials on non-industrial projects is retroactive to May 15, and the instrument covering mechanics grants them the increased hourly rates for work done since May 15.

All of the contracts now have a common expiration date—December 31, 1948, Sawochka said.

## Local 716 Members Bereaved

Officers and members of Teamsters Local 716, Indianapolis, wish to express their deepest sympathy for the family of Brother William Matthews who died recently. Brother Matthews had been employed at the Polar Ice Co.

Officers and members of Local 716 also extend deepest sympathy to Brother Conrad Munn in the recent death of his father.

## NLRB Will Drop 3,000 Cases Unless Unions File New Data

WASHINGTON—Cases already filed with the National Labor Relations Board will be dismissed in wholesale lots if the unions involved fail to file registration forms and non-Communist affidavits required by the Taft-Hartley law.

This drastic NLRB policy was announced by Robert N. Denham, general counsel and virtual "czar" of the NLRB.

The strict interpretation of the law, made by Denham, was contained in instructions to the NLRB regional offices. They were told to allow unions a period of 20 days from the effective date of the complete law, August 22, in which to file the required information. If the unions do not act within that period, cases in which they are involved will be dismissed without action by the board.

It is estimated that about 3,000 cases pending in the board's regional offices will be affected by the Denham policy.

Denham announced the "dismissal" policy applies to unions' petitions for collective bargaining elections and to cases involving alleged unfair practices on the part of employers. It will also apply here an employer petitioned for an election unless both unions involved file the registration data.

In a case where a petitioning union files the required data and a union which has a contract does not, Denham said the intervening union will be permitted to defend the contract at a hearing. It will be advised, however, that its intervention will be limited to that purpose and that if an election is directed it may not appear on the ballot.

This means that a union which has a contract and fails to comply with the registration requirement will be certain to lose its standing under the law as a certified labor organization. The election will be won either by the petitioning union or by a majority who might vote for no union.

Mr. Denham said that in conformity with the requirements of the act and NLRB policy concerning the processing of old charges he is ordering the dismissal of all unfair labor practice cases pending in the regional offices in which hearings have not been started and in which the charges were filed more than six months after the incident which led to the action.

A house-to-house campaign for the Union Label cause will offset the anti-unionists' guffaws!

## Local 759 Signs Converse Cannery

(Continued from page 1)

San Francisco and all members should attend this meeting, September 6.

The back pay on the Omar contract covering the garage help and loaders has been paid, and contract signed and settled.

Cooperation is not merely "talk." It requires action and the best way to get it is to patronize only firms that display the Union Label, Shop Card, or Button!

## The Indiana Teamster

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# 2 OUT OF 3 AMERICANS FAVOR UNIONS

## Taft-Hartley Slavery Law Now in Effect

WASHINGTON—The Taft-Hartley law, major handiwork of the Republican controlled, reactionary 80th Congress, became fully effective on August 22.

Thus, many protections of labor's Magna Charta, the Wagner Act, were eclipsed and supplanted by the drastic, anti-labor measure designed to hamstring the labor movement and inject the Government into the conduct of labor-management relations.

Faced with the full impact of the Taft-Hartley law, the AFL Executive Council at its coming meeting in Chicago will consider the problems involved and map a campaign of forceful action against the measure.

Some of the provisions of the new law, now fully operative for the first time, are as follows:

The general counsel is established as a labor relations controller, independent of the National Labor Relations Board, while the latter is shorn of its administrative functions and is turned into a labor court.

Formerly the general counsel acted as an agent of the board, he now has final authority to pass on all charges of unfair labor practices and representation cases and issuance of complaints.

Among the major new functions delegated to the general counsel is the prosecution of employees for unfair labor practices. Hitherto only employers were liable to prosecution for unfair labor practices against employees.

The general counsel will investigate for the first time complaints by employers against unions, which may be charged with having committed one or more of six prescribed unfair labor practices. They are as follows:

Coercion of other employees in their rights of collective bargaining; discrimination under union shop contracts for reasons other than failure to pay dues; refusal to bargain; engaging in certain types of strikes and boycotts; exacting excessive or discriminatory fees under union shop agreements and engaging in "featherbedding."

The closed shop, under which employers can hire only union members, is outlawed. The union shop, in which non-union workers may be employed if they join up in 30 days is continued but under severe restrictions.

To qualify for their rights under the act, the unions are compelled to file financial data showing salaries of officers and statements of union rules. Affidavits of chief officers swearing they are not Communists must be filed with the NLRB. Unless both provisions are complied with, union cases will not be processed.

Foremen and supervisors are no longer protected in their organizational rights under the law.

The new act's regulations depart from the Wagner Act in various ways. In representation proceedings, the Wagner Act made no provision for decertifying a union which had been certified as the employees' bargaining agent by the board. The law makes effective a section providing for decertification of unions on petitions by employees.

While formerly an employer could not ask for a representation election unless two or more unions presented conflicting claims, he may now petition for an election even if one union is involved.

A new section of the law re-

## Tobin Tells Convention Communism Worse Than NAM

(Continued from page 1)

to be sorry in the future. A mistake, however, was made when the Teamsters helped Senator Knowland, he said, for Knowland, at the first big test, voted for the vicious Taft-Hartley Bill.

### Will Not Be Chained

"The more you persecute Labor the more you solidify the common people, the great mass of the toilers, organized and unorganized," said President Tobin. "This new law will increase strikes, for free men will not stand being chained to a post and deprived of the very rights they fought to defend for the American people."

He cited the fact that Labor kept the faith during the war, the Teamsters adhering to their promise not to strike. He declared that though the blood of Union Teamsters flowed on the battle field, selfish interests have now forgotten. He said more than 124,000 Union Teamsters wore the uniform of their country in the last war and that no exemptions were asked from service.

"There is one crime, however, that cannot be forgotten, and that is the crime of ingratitude, of which both major political parties are guilty—the crime of America, after the war."

President Tobin recalled his experiences in England after World War One, when a great general strike was on. He showed how the Tories used this strike to inflame public opinion, pass punitive and repressive legislation and put the Labor Unions in politics, with the result that Britain now has a Labor Government which is fast moving toward socialism. He drew a parallel between the British experience and that in this country, which has just resulted in passage of the Taft-Hartley Slavery Bill.

### Fast-Changing World

"There are those who say it cannot happen here," he declared. "Of course it can. The reactionary forces, the majority of the southern Democrats and eastern Republicans are driving toward a condition which may well see it happen in America. Yes, it can happen here. The world is changing so fast that leaders in our

quires the board to petition the Federal court for injunctions in certain types of cases where unfair labor practices threaten serious harm which may be irreparable if permitted to continue.

The law sets up a new Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service as an independent agency. The old Conciliation Service was part of the Labor Department.

Under the procedures an employer or employee organization wishing to terminate or modify a contract must give the other 60 days' notice of that intention, combined with an offer to meet the other party for conferences.

In the meantime, the contract is to remain in full force and effect. There can be no strike or lockout for 60 days after the first notice is given.

Any employee who strikes during the waiting or "cooling off" period may be discharged by the employer.

The NLRB is now required to "hear and determine" jurisdictional disputes.

national political life do not know where they are. Russia is adopting a stand of defiance. One blunder may lead us into another war."

It is futile to attempt to settle jurisdictional disputes by legislation, he said. The people cannot be driven into organizations by ten-cent politicians. He said he did not believe all capital was selfish and dishonest. He declared that he believed American Labor

ident Tobin there was a tremendous ovation, the delegates rising to honor the memory of a great and noble friend.

### One of Greatest

"History will rank Roosevelt between Washington and Lincoln," Tobin said. "He is one of the greatest emancipators in the nation's history. Yet now the hirelings of the selfish, Tory interests, which hate labor, are trying to smear his name. I believe that such people should be publicly listed as traitors."

President Tobin also came out against a third political party at this time, though he frankly said he might have to change his mind. First, he warned, labor must be solidified, must be united in one organization. Then, when this is done, labor, and the families of working people, and those in sympathy with the working people, can win easily, for labor will have the votes.

"I do not know what is going on behind the scenes in England," he said. "I know that England is on the brink of bankruptcy. We, of America, may have to go it alone in the next few years if things do not brighten up. If this becomes necessary, the greatest strength of our country lies in its working people. We are the only nation left to protect free enterprise. Yet, knowing these facts, was there anyone from the capital present in Washington to speak a word in behalf of the working people when the Taft-Hartley Bill was up for a vote? They are gradually driving us away from them."

"Another great curse to America is Communism. It is giving us more trouble in labor than the Manufacturers' Association. These Communists have no right to be here. Their government made a solemn pledge that they would not attempt to undermine our government, but that pledge has been broken repeatedly and is still being broken. The greatest field for these agents of Communism is in the unions. I thank God this poison has not crept into the Teamsters' Union."

"We must prepare our course of action under the new repressive laws, so that we can fight them as a unit. The stronger you make the International Union, the stronger you will be in your unions at home. That is why I am so anxious for cooperation across the whole field of our organization."

## TEAMSTERS VOTE TO HELP DEFEAT ENEMY CANDIDATES

A resolution calling upon all Teamster locals in the United States to see that their members are registered and informed as to the qualifications of all candidates for Congress was unanimously adopted by the convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

All Teamster locals are to make their plans early and see that they are carried out so that the Teamster vote can be assured in the combat against those who voted for the Taft-Hartley slave bill.

On the question of declaring Election Day to be a holiday, it was stated that this matter would be left to the locals to work out the matter with their employers so that contracts would not be broken. It was stressed that the Teamsters do not countenance the breaking of agreements.

The American Federation of Labor, at its meeting in San Francisco in October, also will discuss the matter of making election days also Teamster holidays into new agreements.

Daniel J. Tobin, General President of the Teamsters International Union, said that after the two major political parties have nominated candidates for President, he probably would call a conference to map out the Union's strategy in the election.

wants to protect honest capital, but not the "thieves and robbers and chislers who control some of our great industries." He declared he believed 99 per cent of industry wanted peace and agreement with labor but that the one per cent is in the saddle now.

At the mention of the name of Franklin Delano Roosevelt by Pres-

## Nation-Wide Poll Reveals Labor Friends

By GEORGE GALLUP

Director, American Institute of Public Opinion  
Writing for Indianapolis Star

PRINCETON, N. J., Aug. 30

—Although this Labor Day marks the beginning of a new era of union regulation under the Taft-Hartley Act, public opinion in this country continues to be overwhelmingly in favor of the union movement and in favor of the right of labor to strike.

Because public sentiment favors specific controls over certain union practices such as feather-bedding, financial accounting, the checkoff and closed shop, it does not follow that the country is anti-union or even anti-strike.

A coast-to-coast poll by the Institute finds, on the contrary, that nearly two voters out of three approve of labor unions and believe that workers should continue to have the right to strike if they want to. Only about one American in four wants to see all strikes prohibited.

These facts are brought out in answer to two questions put to a cross-section of Americans by the Institute.

The first is as follows:

"In general, do you approve or disapprove of labor unions?"

Similar surveys have been conducted by the Institute at periodic intervals beginning in 1937. The trends, with the latest figure included, follows:

|       | Ap-<br>prove | Disap-<br>prove | Undec. |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1937  | 72%          | 20%             | 8%     |
| 1939  | 68           | 24              | 8      |
| 1940  | 61           | 22              | 14     |
| 1941  | 61           | 30              | 9      |
| TODAY | 64           | 25              | 11     |

Organized labor's main public relations problem is with farmers. In today's survey only 49 per cent of the farmers polled say they approve of labor unions, whereas, among professional and businessmen, white collar and manual workers the figure is over 70 per cent.

The Taft-Hartley Act places certain restrictions on striking and certain penalties for unauthorized walkouts, but does not deny the right to strike.

Public sentiment would not accept the abolishing of the right to strike in peacetime.

The second question is the survey asked:

"Should Congress pass a law forbidding strikes in all industries, or should workers have the right to go on strike?"

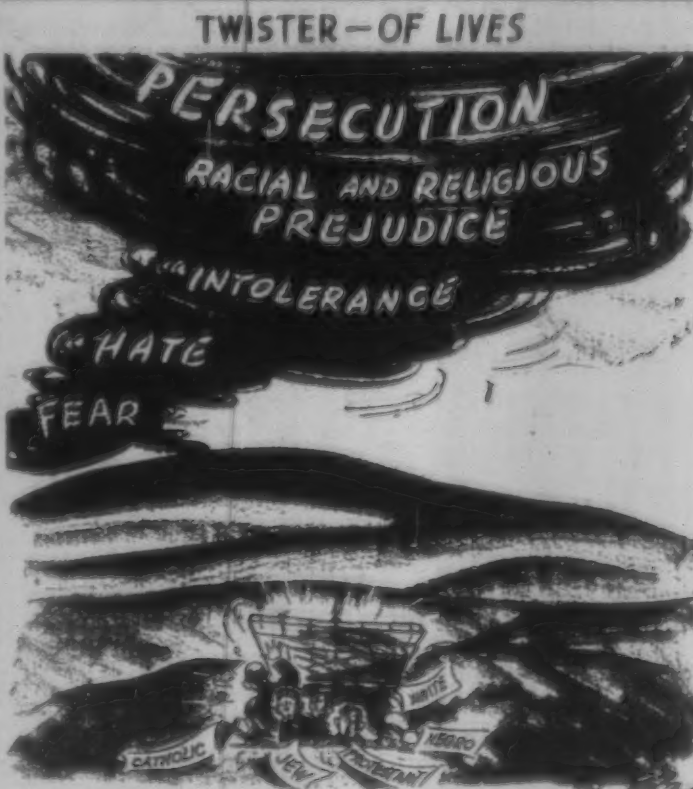
The vote:

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Should forbid            | 28% |
| Continue right to strike | 62  |
| No opinion               | 10  |

During wartime the public felt strongly that the right to strike should be severely restricted while the nation was in the throes of its struggle against Hitler and the Japanese. As early as 1941 the Institute found 73 per cent in favor of forbidding all strikes in war industries for the duration.

At the present time the greatest sentiment for outlawing strikes is found among farmers. Here is how the major occupational groups vote:

|              | Forbid<br>Strikes | Have<br>Right | Un-<br>dec. |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Prof. & Bus. | 26%               | 67%           | 7%          |
| Farmers      | 40                | 47            | 13          |
| White Collar | 26                | 65            | 9           |
| Man. Workers | 25                | 65            | 10          |



Courtesy Institute for American Democracy, Inc.